

U. S. Appl'n No. 10/017,991

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-32 are canceled without prejudice

33 (currently amended) A parts management system, comprising a mobile unit and a service center,

wherein the mobile unit comprises:

a collecting device that collects management information related to management of parts of the mobile unit; and

a mobile unit transmitting device that transmits the management information to the service center, and

wherein the service center comprises

a determining device that determines whether or not at least one part required for replacement exists in the parts of the mobile unit based on the transmitted management information;

an acquiring device that acquires part replacement information from parts suppliers related to replacement of at least one part required for replacement, in a case where it is determined by the determining device that at least one part required for replacement exists; and

a service center transmitting device that transmits the part replacement information to the mobile unit,

wherein the mobile unit further comprises a notifying device that notifies the transmitted part replacement information to a user of the mobile unit, and

wherein the part replacement information is information comprising: information identifying said at least one part required for replacement; and information identifying at least one parts supplier dealing with the part required for replacement.

34 (previously presented). The part management system according to claim 33, wherein the part replacement information is information related to status of the parts supplier's stock of the part required for replacement.

35 (previously presented). The part management system according to claim 33, wherein the part replacement information is information related to status of working areas of the parts supplier.

36 (previously presented). The part management system according to claim 33, wherein the part replacement information is information related to labor charges of the parts supplier.

37 (previously presented). The part management system according to claim 33, wherein the part replacement information is information related to the parts supplier's price of the part required for replacement.

38 (previously presented). The part management system according to claim 33, wherein the mobile unit further comprises a position detecting device that detects a position of the mobile unit, and

the mobile unit transmitting device transmits position information of the mobile unit together with the management information,

wherein the service center further comprises a searching device that searches the parts supplier based on the transmitted position information, in a case where it is determined that at least one part required for replacement exists by the determining device, and

the acquiring device acquires part replacement information of the searched parts supplier.

39 (previously presented). The part management system according to claim 33, wherein the mobile unit further comprises a selecting device that selects at least one part to replace and parts supplier with whom a user of the mobile unit places an order for the part, by the user's instructions based on notification information from the notifying device, and

the mobile unit transmitting device transmits selection information obtained by the selecting device to the service center,

wherein the service center transmitting device transmits to the selected parts supplier selection information provided by the selecting device and transmitted from the mobile unit.

40 (currently amended). A method of managing parts of a mobile unit, comprising collecting, at a mobile unit, management information related to management of parts of the mobile unit;

transmitting the management information from the mobile unit to a service center; determining, at the service center, whether or not at least one part required for replacement exists in the parts of the mobile unit based on the transmitted management information;

acquiring, at the service center, part replacement information from parts supplier related to replacement of at least one part required for replacement, in a case where it is determined that at least one part required for replacement exists by said determining;

transmitting the part replacement information from the service center to the mobile unit, and

notifying, at the mobile unit, the transmitted part replacement information to a user of the mobile unit,

wherein the part replacement information is information comprising: information identifying said at least one part required for replacement; and information identifying at least one parts supplier dealing with the part required for replacement.

41 (previously presented). The method according to claim 40, wherein the part replacement information is information related to status of the parts supplier's stock of the part required for replacement.

42 (previously presented). The method according to claim 40, wherein the part replacement information is information related to status of working areas of the parts supplier.

43 (previously presented). The method according to claim 40, wherein the part replacement information is information related to labor charges of the parts supplier.

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44 (previously presented). The method according to claim 40, wherein the part replacement information is information related to the parts supplier's price of the part required for replacement.

45 (previously presented). The method according to claim 40, wherein the method further comprises

detecting a position of the mobile unit, and
transmitting position information of the mobile unit together with the management information from the mobile unit to the service center,
wherein the method further comprises searching the parts supplier based on the transmitted position information, in a case where it is determined that at least one part required for replacement exists by said determining, and
acquiring acquires part replacement information of the searched parts supplier.

46 (previously presented). The method according to claim 40, wherein the method further comprises

selecting at least one part to replace and at least one parts supplier with whom a user of the mobile unit places an order for the part, by the user's instructions based on notification information from said notifying,

transmitting selection information obtained by said selecting from the mobile unit to the service center, and

transmitting selection information obtained by said selecting received from the mobile unit from the service center to the selected parts supplier.

47 (previously presented). A storage medium storing thereon a program code for causing a computer to execute the steps according to claim 40.

48 (previously presented). A collecting unit, when executing the process according to claim 40, used for collecting management information related to management of parts of the mobile unit.

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49 (previously presented). A transmitting unit, when executing the method according to claim 40, used for transmitting the management information from the mobile unit to a service center.

50 (previously presented). A determining unit, when executing the method according to claim 40, used for determining whether or not at least one part required for replacement exists in the parts of the mobile unit based on the transmitted management information.

51 (previously presented). An acquiring unit, when executing the method according to claim 40, used for acquiring part replacement information from parts supplier related to replacement of at least one part required for replacement, in a case where it is determined that at least one part required for replacement exists by the process of determining.

52 (previously presented). A transmitting unit, when executing the method according to claim 40, used for transmitting the part replacement information from the service center to the mobile unit.

53 (previously presented). A notifying unit, when executing the method according to claim 40, used for notifying the transmitted part replacement information to a user of the mobile unit.